

Message Text

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INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 /011 R

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DRAFTED BY: ACDA/IR:DBLACK

APPROVED BY: ACDA/IR: DBLACK

S/S-O: L MATTESON

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R 302057Z NOV 74

FM SECSTATE WASHDC

TO USMISSION IAEA VIENNA

S E C R E T STATE 263868

EXDIS

FOL REPEAT OF MOSCOW 17989 TO SECSTATE INFO BONN LONDON OTTAWA
PARIS TOKYO NOV 29

QTE:

S E C R E T MOSCOW 17989

EXDIS

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: PARM, UR

SUBJECT: COORDINATION OF NUCLEAR EXPORT POLICY: SOVIET CIEWS

1. SUMMARY. TIMERBAYEV OF THE INTERNATIONAL ORGANIZA-
TIONS DIVISION OF MFA ASKED ME TO CALL NOVEMBER 29 TO
INFORM ME THAT THE SOVIETS AGREE IN PRINCIPLE TO
PARTICIPATION IN THE NUCLEAR EXPORTERS CONFERENCE WE
HAVE PROPOSED. HE INFORMED ME THAT THE SOVIET UNION
WOULD LIKE TO SEE THE GDR INVITED AS THE EIGHTH PARTI-
CIPANT. HE ALSO STATED THAT THE SOVIETS STILL HOPE TO
HAVE A GENERAL DISCUSSION WITH US ON A BILATERAL BASIS,
IN A FORUM OTHER THAN THE EXPORTERS CONFERENCE, ON
OTHER NUCLEAR MATTERS SUCH AS THE IAEA PANEL ON PNE'S
AND THE REVIEW CONFERENCE (SEPTTEL). END SUMMARY

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2. AFTER INFORMING ME OF THE SOVIET DECISION TO PARTICIPATE, WHICH HE NOTED HAD ONLY BEEN TAKEN ON NOVEMBER 28, TIMERBAYEV ADDED THAT THE SOVIET UNION WOULD BE INTERESTED IN SEEING THE GDR PARTICIPATE AS WELL. THE GDR, HE EXPLAINED IS AN IMPORTANT EXPORTER OF NUCLEAR MATERIALS. I REPLIED THAT I WOULD REPORT THIS SOVIET INTEREST, BUT THAT, AS WE HAD STATED PREVIOUSLY, FOR THIS FIRST CONFERENCE AT LEAST WE FELT IT DESIRABLE TO LIMIT PARTICIPANTS TO THE SEVEN ORIGINALLY PROPOSED. THERE WOULD BE OTHER MEETINGS IN THE FUTURE WHICH HOPEFULLY COULD INCLUDE ALL NUCLEAR EXPORTERS. I CONTINUED THAT AN INVITATION TO THE GDR MIGHT CAUSE PROBLEMS, FOR IT WOULD MAKE IT DIFFICULT TO TURN DOWN OTHERS WHO WOULD BE INTERESTED IN TAKING PART, SUCH AS ITALY AND THE NETHERLANDS. TIMERBAYEV REPLIED THAT THE SOVIET SIDE UNDERSTANDS THIS, AND SEES GDR PARTICIPATION AS REPRESENTING THE "3-4" OTHER NUCLEAR EXPORTERS IN THE SOCIALIST BLOC. HE CONTINUED THAT I WOULD BE IMPORTANT FOR THE SOVIETS TO HAVE ONE OF THEIR OTHER "FRIENDS" PARTICIPATE. LATER, ON MY WAY OUT, TIMERBAYEV CONFIDED PERSONALLY THAT HE HOPED THAT THE QUESTION OF GDR PARTICIPATION WOULD NOT CAUSE US INSURMOUNTABLE DIFFICULTIES. HE ALLUDED TO FRG PARTICIPATION AND SAID THAT HE HOPED I UNDERSTOOD THE PROBLEMS THE SOVIET UNION FACES IN SUCH A SITUATION.

3. TIMERBAYEV MENTIONED THAT THE JAPANESE EMBASSY HERE HAD ALREADY APPROACHED HIM ON THE CONFERENCE, NOTING THE U.S. DISCUSSIONS WITH JAPAN. THEY HAD TOLD HIM THAT THE CONFERENCE WAS SCHEDULED TO TAKE PLACE IN PARIS IN DECEMBER. I REPLIED THAT AS FAR AS I KNEW NO TIME HAD YET BEEN SET, THOUGH WE DID HOPE TO HOLD THE CONFERENCE AS SOON AS POSSIBLE AND I THOUGHT WE WOULD BE AGREEABLE TO HOLDING IT IN DECEMBER IF IT COULD BE ARRANGED ON SUCH SHORT NOTICE. I SAID THAT SO FAR THE BRITISH AND CANADIANS HAVE OFFICIALLY ACCEPTED, AND THE FRG IS FAVORABLY INCLINED BUT HAS NOT YET OFFICIALLY REPLIED; THE JAPANESE AND THE FRENCH, HOWEVER, ARE STILL CONSIDERING. WE FEEL THAT FRENCH PARTICIPATION IS ESSENTIAL, AND, IF THEY DO DECIDE TO PARTICIPATE, I FELT THAT WE WOULD

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NOT OBJECT IF THEY PROPOSE THAT THE MEETING BE HELD IN PARIS.

4. TIMERBAYEV SAID THAT HE BELIEVED IT WOULD BE USEFUL FOR THE SOVIET SIDE TO INFORM THE JAPANESE OF THEIR DECISION TO PARTICIPATE SINCE THE JAPANESE HAD SHOWN INTEREST IN THE SOVIET REACTION. HE SAID HE PLANNED TO DO SO, ADDING THAT HE HAD WANTED TO INFORM US FIRST,

HOWEVER.

5. TIMBERBAYEV ASKED WHETHER WE HAD ANY INFORMATION ON THE LEVEL PROPOSED FOR THE MEETING. I REPLIED THAT SOME TECHNICAL EXPERTS WOULD OF COURSE BE REQUIRED AT THE MEETING, BUT THAT I HAD NO INFORMATION YET AS TO THE LEVEL OF SENIOR REPRESENTATIVES WE HAD IN MIND.

6. TIMBERBAYEV ASKED WHETHER THE MEETING WAS STILL TO BE HELD ON A CONFIDENTIAL BASIS. I CONFIRMED THAT IT WAS, AND THAT WE ASCRIBED CONSIDERABLE IMPORTANCE TO ITS CONFIDENTIALITY.

7. TIMBERBAYEV'S REMARKS ON THE SUBJECT OF A BILATERAL TOUR D'HORIZON WITH US ON OTHER NUCLEAR MATTERS ARE BEING REPORTED BY SEPTTEL.
STOESSEL UNQTE KISSINGER

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Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: Z
Capture Date: 01 JAN 1994
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: POLICIES, EXPORTS, NUCLEAR ENERGY, PLANNING MEETINGS, NUCLEAR COOPERATION PROGRAMS
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Draft Date: 30 NOV 1974
Decaption Date: 28 MAY 2004
Decaption Note: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Authority: golinofr
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 28 MAY 2004
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1974STATE263868
Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: ACDA/IR:DBLACK
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: GS
Errors: N/A
Film Number: D740348-0241
From: STATE
Handling Restrictions: n/a
Image Path:
ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1974/newtext/t1974111/aaaaadr.tel
Line Count: 132
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE, ON MICROFILM
Office: ORIGIN SS
Original Classification: SECRET
Original Handling Restrictions: EXDIS
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Page Count: 3
Previous Channel Indicators:
Previous Classification: SECRET
Previous Handling Restrictions: EXDIS
Reference: n/a
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Authority: golinofr
Review Comment: n/a
Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 26 MAR 2002
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review History: RELEASED <26 MAR 2002 by kelleyw0>; APPROVED <28 MAY 2002 by golinofr>
Review Markings:

Declassified/Released
US Department of State
EO Systematic Review
30 JUN 2005

Review Media Identifier:
Review Referrals: n/a
Review Release Date: n/a
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
Subject: COORDINATION OF NUCLEAR EXPORT POLICY: SOVIET CIEWS
TAGS: PARM, UR, (TIMERBAYEV)
To: IAEA VIENNA
Type: TE
Markings: Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 30 JUN 2005